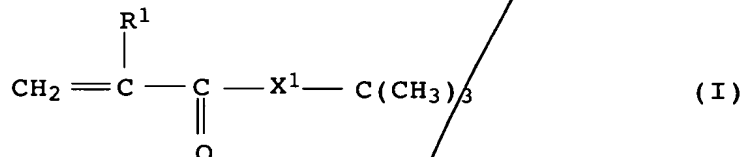


We claim:

1. A cosmetic composition comprising at least one water-soluble or water-dispersible polymer which comprises, in copolymerized form,

- a) at least one α,β -ethylenically unsaturated monomer of the formula I



in which

R^1 is hydrogen or C_1 - C_8 -alkyl, and

X^1 is O or NR^2 , where R^2 is hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 -alkyl or C_5 - C_8 -cycloalkyl,

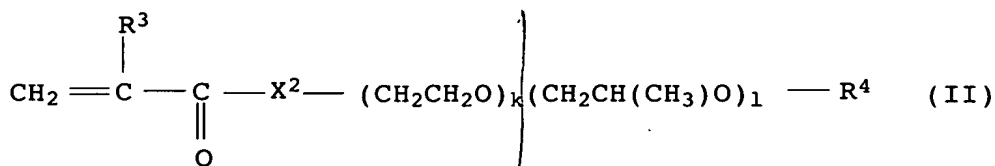
- b) at least one α,β -ethylenically unsaturated mono- and/or dicarboxylic acid,
c) at least one compound having at least one α,β -ethylenically unsaturated double bond and at least 5 alkylene oxide units per molecule,
d) at least one compound having at least one α,β -ethylenically unsaturated double bond and at least one straight-chain or branched C_8 - C_{30} -alkyl or -alkylene radical per molecule,

where the components c) and/or d) can be partially or completely replaced by a component e), where

- e) is at least one compound having at least one α,β -ethylenically unsaturated double bond, at least 5 alkylene oxide units and at least one straight-chain or branched C_8 - C_{30} -alkyl or -alkylene radical per molecule,

~~or the salts thereof.~~

2. A composition as claimed in claim 1, where component c) is chosen from polyether acrylates of the formula II



in which

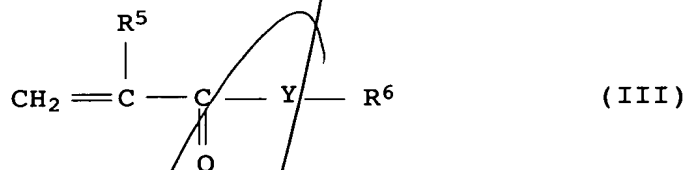
the order of the alkylene oxide units is arbitrary,
k and l independently of one another are an integer from
0 to 50, the sum k + l being at least 5,

R³ is hydrogen or C₁-C₈-alkyl, and

R⁴ is hydrogen or C₁-C₆-alkyl,

X² is O or NR², where R² is hydrogen, C₁-C₈-alkyl or
C₅-C₈-cycloalkyl.

3. A composition as claimed in claim 1, where component d) is
chosen from compounds of the formula III



in which

R⁵ is hydrogen or C₁-C₈-alkyl,

R⁶ is a straight-chain or branched C₈-C₃₀-alkyl radical,
and

Y is O or NR⁷, where R⁷ is hydrogen, C₁-C₈-alkyl or
C₅-C₈-cycloalkyl.

4. A composition as claimed in claim 1, where the components c)
and/or d) are partially or completely replaced by component
e) and where component e) is chosen from

e1) polyether acrylates of the formula II, as defined in
claim 2, in which R⁴ is C₈-C₃₀-alkyl,

e2) urethane (meth)acrylates containing alkylene oxide groups

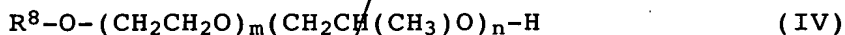
and mixtures thereof.

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5. A composition as claimed in claim 4, where component e2) comprises, in incorporated form, the following compounds: f, g and h; or f, h, i and m; or g and l; or i, l and m; or f, i, l and m; or f, h, k and m; and optionally other compounds, where

f) is at least one diisocyanate,

g) is at least one compound of the formula IV



in which

the order of the alkylene oxide units is arbitrary,

R^8 is a straight-chain or branched C_8 - C_{30} -alkyl radical,

m and n independently of one another are an integer from 0 to 50, the sum $m + n$ being at least 5,

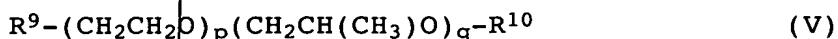
h) is at least one α,β -ethylenically unsaturated compound which, per molecule, additionally contains at least one group which is reactive toward isocyanate groups,

i) is a compound chosen from monohydric alcohols, diols, amines, diamines and aminoalcohols having at least one straight-chain or branched C_8 - C_{30} -alkyl or -alkylene radical per molecule, and mixtures thereof,

k) is at least one aliphatic, cycloaliphatic or aromatic monoisocyanate,

l) is at least one α,β -ethylenically unsaturated compound which additionally contains at least one isocyanate group per molecule,

m) is at least one compound of the formula V



in which

the order of the alkylene oxide units is arbitrary,

p and q are as defined above for m and n,

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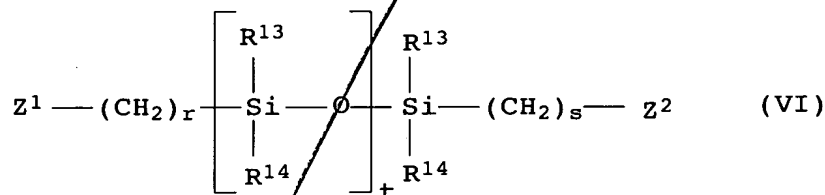
R^9 is OH or NHR^{11} , where R^{11} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_8 -alkyl or C_5 - C_8 -cycloalkyl,

R^{10} is H, $CH_2CH_2NHR^{11}$ or $CH_2CH(CH_3)NHR^{11}$.

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6. A composition as claimed in claim 5, where component e2) additionally comprises, in incorporated form, at least one component chosen from

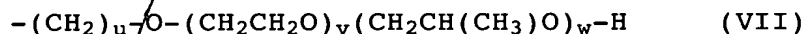
- 10 n) compounds having a molecular weight in the range from 56 to 300 which contain two active hydrogen atoms per molecule,
- o) polytetrahydrofurans having two active hydrogen atoms per molecule
- 15 p) polysiloxanes of the formula VI



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in which

- 25 R^{13} and R^{14} independently of one another are C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, benzyl, phenyl or a radical of the formula VII



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where

in formula VII the order of the alkylene oxide units is arbitrary,

u is an integer from 1 to 8,

v and w independently of one another are an integer from 0 to 200, the sum $v + w$ being > 0 ,

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Z^1 and Z^2 independently of one another are OH, NHR^{15} or a radical of the formula VII, where R^{15} is hydrogen, C_1 - C_6 -alkyl or C_5 - C_8 -cycloalkyl,

r and s independently of one another are from 2 to 8,

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t is from 3 to 50,

and mixtures thereof.

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7. A composition as claimed in claim 1, comprising a polymer which comprises, in copolymerized form,

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- 5
- from 40 to 85% by weight, preferably from 45 to 80% by weight, of at least one component a),
 - from 10 to 30% by weight, preferably from 15 to 28% by weight, of at least one component b),
 - from 1 to 20% by weight, preferably from 2 to 15% by weight, of at least one component c),
 - from 1 to 30% by weight, preferably from 2 to 25% by weight, of at least one component d),

10 where components c) and/or d) can be partially or completely replaced by a component e).

15 8. A composition as claimed in claim 1 in the form of a hair-treatment composition, in particular in the form of a hair spray.

20 9. A composition as claimed in claim 8, comprising

- 25
- a) from 0.5 to 20% by weight of at least one water-soluble or -dispersible polymer, as defined in one of claims 1 to 9,
 - b) from 30 to 99.5% by weight, preferably from 40 to 99% by weight, of at least one solvent chosen from water, water-miscible solvents and mixtures thereof,
 - c) from 0 to 70% by weight of a propellant,
 - d) from 0 to 10% by weight of at least one water-soluble or -dispersible hair polymer which is different from a),
 - e) from 0 to 0.3% by weight of at least one water-insoluble silicone,
 - f) from 0 to 1% by weight of at least one nonionic, siloxane-containing, water-soluble or -dispersible polymer.
- 30

35 10. Coating composition or binder for solid medicament forms or coating composition for the textile, paper, printing, leather and adhesive industries, comprising a polymer as defined in claim 1.

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